

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7710

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USUN NEW YORK 2576

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MONTREAL FOR ICAO

PARIS FOR UNESCO,ROME FOR FODAC, VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG

SUBJ: GENEVA GROUP (WHO) MEETING JAN 13, 1976

1. GENEVA GROUP (WHO) MEETING CHAIRED BY US CO-CHAIRMAN AND ATTENDED BY ALL TEN MEMBERS, TWO OBSERVERS AND VISITING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS FROM AUSTRALIA,FRG,FRANCE,CANADA, JAPAN, AND USG, HELD AT MISSION PRIOR TO OPENING OF WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD ON JAN 14. PURPOSE WAS TO DISCUSS UPCOMING WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD REVIEW OF WHO PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR CY1977 (\$146,900,000).

2. NO BUDGETARY PROBLEMS OF ANY REAL SIGNIFICANCE WERE ANTICIPATED BY GG OR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING GG MEETING. COMMENTS ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROPOSED EFFECTIVE WORKING BUDGET AND PROGRAM ACTIVITIES RANGED FROM

"DG HAS DONE REMARKABLY WELL" (FRANCE), "NO PROBLEMS WITH WHO 1977 BUDGET" (UK), "LEVEL PROPOSED QUITE MODERATE" (US) TO "GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH BUDGET BUT \$2 MILLION MODIFICATION OF PROGRAM IS BIT QUESTIONABLE" (FRG), "REASONABLY HAPPY WITH BUDGET" (AUSTRALIA), AND "IN GENERAL, OK" (CANADA, BELGIUM). CANADA AND AUSTRALIA ALSO RAISED SOME CONCERNS ABOUT EFFECT OF UNDP CUTBACKS ON WHO BUDGET AND PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS "NEST EGG RESERVES" RESULTING FROM WHO ADVANTAGEOUS EXCHANGE RATE.

3. ALSO DISCUSSED WERE ISSUES OF REDUCING AND/OR WAIVING ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS BY RSV AND NAMIBIA...IN THE CASE OF RSV LOWERING CONTRIBUTION LEVEL FROM 0.06 TO 0.02 PERCENT, AND FOR NAMIBIA, WAIVING ITS ASSESSMENT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS NAMIBIA BECOMES INDEPENDENT.

4. ON NAMIBIA THERE WAS NEAR CONSENSUS THAT EXECUTIVE BOARD SHOULD RECOMMEND AGAINST WAIVER AND THAT UN SHOULD PAY ASSESSMENT. ON RSV REDUCTION, GG AND EB MEMBERS SEEMED IN AGREEMENT WITH CANADIAN AND UK SUGGESTION THAT CORRECT POSTURE IS FOR WHO TO SUBMIT RSV REQUEST TO UN COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS FOR RESOLUTION DURING UNCC MEETING NEXT MAY, THOUGH MEMBERS WERE REMINDED RSV IS NOT UN MEMBER AND ITS REQUEST NOT LIKELY TO RECEIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION.

5. ON ITEM OF APPLYING MINUS POST ADJUSTMENTS IN WHO, IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THEY SHOULD BE APPLIED TO BRING WHO INTO CONFORMITY WITH UN PRACTICES, WITH ONLY AUSTRALIA SUGGESTING DELAY UNTIL UN REVIEWS OVERALL SALARY SCALES THROUGHOUT UN LATER IN 1976. IF MINUS POST ADJUSTMENTS APPLIED, IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD AFFECT NEW WHO EMPLOYEES ONLY AND THAT SOME MECHANISM SHOULD BE FOUND TO PREVENT REDUCTION IN EMOLUMENTS FOR CURRENT EMPLOYEES.

6. THERE WAS BRIEF DISCUSSION ON EXTRA-BUDGETARY SUPPORT ITEM BUT NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED.

7. SINCE GG(WHO) MEETING, WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD HAS RESOLVED SOME OF ABOVE AGENDA ITEMS, NAMELY:

A. WHO BUDGET FOR CY1977 (\$146.9 MILLION) APPROVED WITH ONLY USSR VOTE AGAINST.  
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B. ON RSV ITEM, EXECUTIVE BOARD "TRANSMITTED WITH SYMPATHY" TO 29TH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY RSV REQUEST FOR REDUCTION ITS ASSESSED CONTRIBUTION TO MINIMUM 0.02 PERCENT FROM CY 1975 ON, AND RECOMMENDED TO 29TH WHA DEFERMENT OF PAYMENT FOR CY1975, "SUBJECT TO ARRANGEMENTS FOR PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTION TO BE PROPOSED BY RSV TO 30TH WHA".

C. REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF NAMIBIA ASSESSMENT DENIED AND UN URGED TO MAKE PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

D. MINUS POST ADJUSTMENTS TO BE APPLIED EFFECTIVE JAN 1, 1976 TO CONFORM TO UN SYSTEM. HOWEVER, TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT AGREED TO SO THAT REMUNERATION OF WHO EMPLOYEES WILL NOT BE REDUCED IMMEDIATELY.

E. FOR FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS, NO WHO SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REQUEST WAS PRESENTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD.

F. WHO SECRETARIAT HAS INFORMED US REDUCTION OF RSV (AND BANGLADESH) ASSESSMENTS WILL CAUSE NO INCREASE TO US ASSESSMENT.

8. NEXT GENEVA GROUP (GENERAL ) MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JAN 28 TO DISCUSS DATE AND AGENDA OF XIII CONSULTATION LEVEL MEETING.  
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